

SCOPE OF WORK
Technical Assistance for the
National Ambient Air Monitoring Strategy

I. Background:

EPA, along with state and local officials, have embarked on an intense study of the nation's air monitoring networks to assess their future ability to meet the objectives set forth by Congress and the Clean Air Act. Currently, the strategy document entitled "Draft National Ambient Monitoring Strategy is under review and draft comments have been received. Background information on the Strategy along with a copy of the Draft document can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/amtic/monitor.html>

The overarching objective of the strategy is to manage the nation's air monitoring networks such that changing priorities and needs, both national and local, can be accommodated within a scientifically sound and resource optimized framework. The strategy includes the following major tasks:

- Establishing an assessment program that supports decision-making steps related to network divesting and investing;
- Developing a communications strategy to explain to the public the rationale behind network changes and the associated benefits;
- Integrating across programs and organizations to optimize data use and resources to support stable national, state, and local monitoring programs;
- Incorporating emerging technological and scientific advances in measurement techniques;
- Reviewing and modifying monitoring regulations;
- Reviewing and modifying quality assurance programs supporting ambient air monitoring;
- Developing a funding strategy that enables the networks to meet their objectives; and
- Developing an adequate EPA technical infrastructure to insure the integrity of data through quality assurance, operations and training support._

This Scope of Work concentrates on

_____ Establishing an assessment program that supports decision-making steps related to network divesting and investing;

Incorporating emerging technological and scientific advances in measurement techniques;

Revising comments received on the Draft National Monitoring Strategy Document.

II. Statement of Work

Task 1. Review of Documents on the National Air Monitoring Strategy.

The Strategy Document is undergoing peer review from the following groups: Air Quality Research Subcommittee for Environment and Natural

Resources, NARSTO Executive Assembly, Clean Air Science Advisory Committee (CASAC), state and local agencies, and the general public. As the strategy document moves to a more formal review through CASAC and the National Monitoring Strategy Committee, the EPA needs technical support to: (a) continue to refine details of the major components of the document while promoting the strategy within the scientific community; (b) answer comments received from the above mentioned groups; (c) make modifications to the document as appropriate; and (d) review and revise any public information materials developed by the National Air Monitoring Strategy Steering Committee.

It is estimated that the support for this task will not exceed 100 hours.

Task 2. Participate in Conference calls and Meetings

The contractor shall participate in monthly one-hour long conference calls for a period of 6 months to discuss strategy comments received and recommend modifications to the draft document. The schedule of conference calls will be provided to the contractor after award.

It is estimated that the support for this task will not exceed 50 hours.

Task 3. Regional Assessment Reviews.

The contractor shall support the EPA Monitoring and Quality Assurance Group with the review of regional ambient monitoring network assessments received from each of the 10 US EPA Regions (10 assessments in all.) Review questions to be answered are as follows:

1. Does the plan show a cohesive design in relation to the draft revision of the Part 58 rule?
2. Will monitor changes and/or reductions still satisfy the requirements of the draft revision of the Part 58 rule?
3. Does the assessment answer the basic questions on topography, meteorological stations, nonattainment area status, and other questions related to monitor quantity and placement in each state?

As part of the support to be provided within this task, the Contractor shall attend a 2-day assessment workshop with all Regional representatives to discuss the assessment reviews and provide support to the EPA in finalizing technical details related to each Region's network. The workshop shall occur in May or June, in either RTP, NC or Atlanta GA.

It is estimated that the support for this task will not exceed 200 hours.

Task 4. Technology Transfer Development.

The Contractor shall support EPA in working with the Technology Transfer subworkgroup of the National Monitoring Strategy Committee. This support will consist of conducting research on the latest transfer technology available for the monitoring community as follows:

1. Conduct research on costs involved in implementing this type of information technology (i.e., satellite and internet technology for information transfer);
2. Investigate information transfer processes that are currently in operation at other states (such as Texas);
3. Develop written materials on the feasibility of utilizing the latest in ambient air monitoring information transfer technology;
4. Develop a multi-state grant application package on behalf of interested states, for technology transfer assistance from the Office of Environmental Information;
5. Provide any technical language needed for possible inclusion to the Part 58 revision.

During performance of this task, the contractor shall participate in monthly conference calls (6 calls in total) to discuss progress and share results of the research conducted in the performance of this task.

It is estimated that the support for this task will not exceed 125 hours.

III. Deliverables.

Task	Date Due
1	Documents Review - May 30, 2003
2	Conference Calls - Monthly
3	Draft assessment reports - due no later than June 1, 2003 (ready for distribution before Regional Network Assessment Workshop)
3	Assessment reviews - May-August 2003
3	Final assessment reports - August 2003
4	Monthly meetings - Ongoing
4	Multi-state grant package proposal language - June 2003
4	Technical language for Part 58 - August/September 2003